U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Making the Most of Title I Schoolwide Programs

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Presentation Overview

- Program Requirements

- Benefits of Schoolwide Programs

- Guiding Principles and Practices of Effective Schoolwide Programs

- The Six-Step Planning Process

- Resources

What is a Schoolwide Program?

- A Schoolwide program is a comprehensive school reform model.

- The model is designed to generate high levels of academic achievement in core academic areas for all students, especially those who are not demonstrating proficiency in meeting the State's academic content and achievement standards.

4

Program Requirements

- 40% poverty threshold
- One-year planning required prior to implementation
- Identification of students is <u>not</u> required
- Annual evaluation of program effectiveness
- 10 Implementation components
  - Comprehensive needs assessment
  - Schoolwide reform strategies

Program Requirements

– Instruction by highly qualified teachers

– High quality and ongoing professional development

– Strategies to attract highly qualified teachers

– Strategies to increase parental involvement

– Plans for assisting preschool children in the transition from early childhood programs to local elementary programs

Program Requirements

- – Inclusion of teachers in decisions about the use of academic assessment information for the purpose of improving student achievement
- – Effective, timely and additional assistance for students who have difficulty mastering the standards at proficient and advanced levels.
- – Coordination and integration of Federal, State and local services and programs.

Program Requirements

- A schoolwide program that consolidates funds is not required to maintain separate fiscal accounting records for each of those programs.

- A schoolwide program shall maintain records that demonstrate that the program, as a whole, addresses the intent and purposes of each of the Federal programs consolidated to support it.

- The amount of Federal funds used in a schoolwide program must be supplemental to the amount of State and local funds the school would otherwise receive.
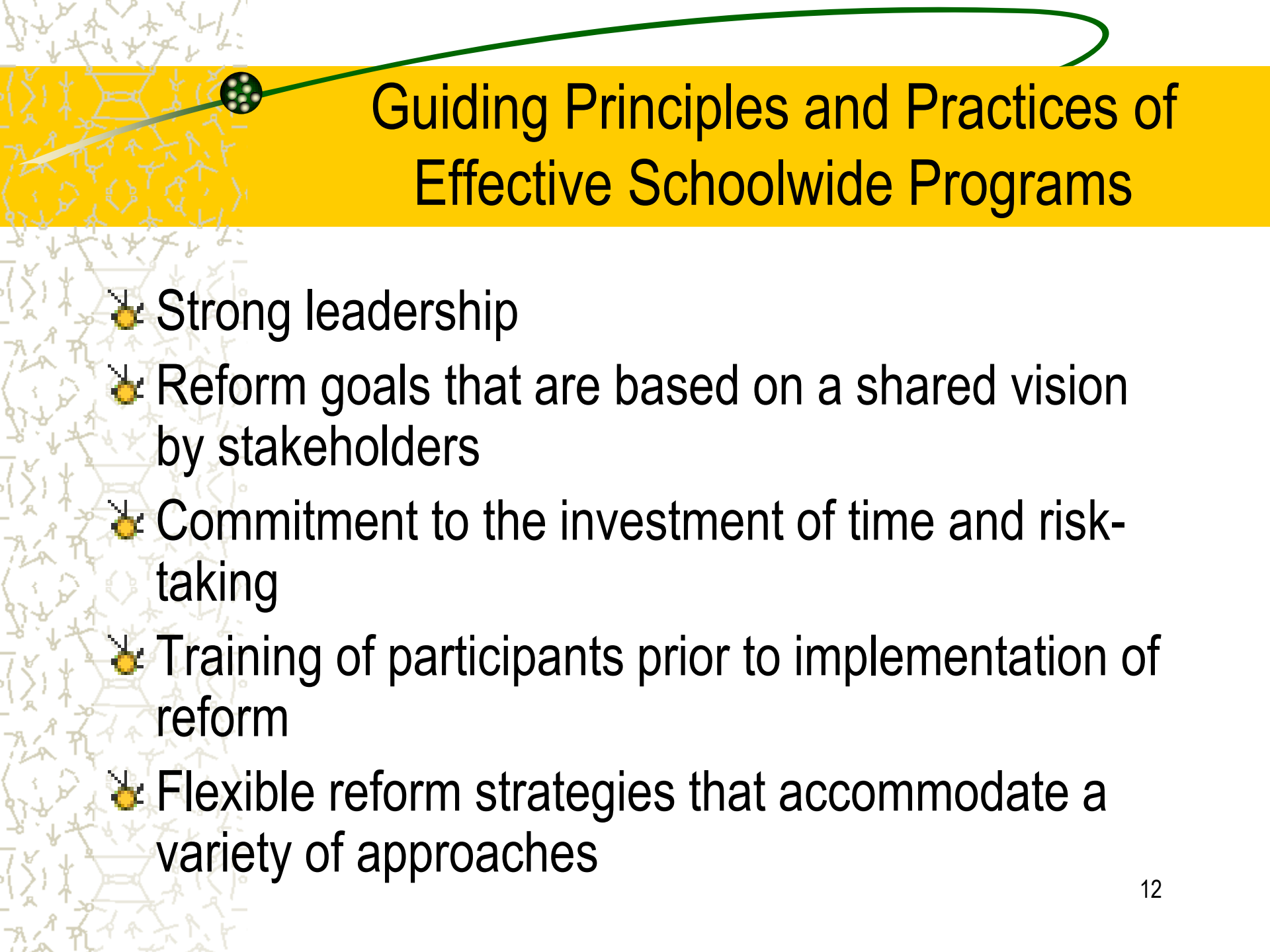
Program Requirements

Schoolwide programs are not relieved of requirements relating to health, safety, civil rights; student and parental participation and involvement; services to private school children; maintenance of effort; comparability of services; and distribution/receipt of funds to SEAs or LEAs.

Program Requirements

- Schoolwide programs are subject to the requirements of the following:
    - Section 1111 – State Plans (standards, assessments, AYP, accountability)
    - Section 1116 – Academic Assessment and LEA and School Improvement (school identification for improvement, supplemental services, choice, etc.)
    - Section 1117 – School Support and Recognition (school support teams)
    - Section 1118 – Parental Involvement (input, involvement, notification)
    - Section 1119 – Qualifications for Teachers and Paraprofessionals (general requirements)

Benefits of Schoolwide Programs

- Flexibility – combining resources, serving all students, redesigning the school and its services.

- Coordination and Integration – reduction in curricular and instructional fragmentation.

- Accountability – clear and coordinated; all students are responsible for achieving the same high standards.

- Unified Goals – schoolwide programs bring parents, the community and the school together to redesign and improve the school.

Guiding Principles and Practices of Effective Schoolwide Programs

- Strong leadership

- Reform goals that are based on a shared vision by stakeholders

- Commitment to the investment of time and risk-taking

- Training of participants prior to implementation of reform

- Flexible reform strategies that accommodate a variety of approaches

Guiding Principles and Practices of Effective Schoolwide Programs

- Redesign of organizational infrastructure
- Investment of resources to support the emerging system
- Continuous self-assessment
- Use of a meaningful planning process
- Accommodation and support of a diverse student population

Elements of Planning

- Planning is a systematic process for developing a new or refined vision, setting priorities, and defining a more effective school organization and governing structure.

- Planning is a mechanism for building a constituency to support school change and should involve school staff, parents, and the community.

Six-Step Planning Process

- Step 1. Establishing a planning team

    - The principal, district official or school leader convenes a small pre-planning group--or--utilizes an existing team.
    - The pre-planning team develops initial activities the larger team will likely undertake.
    - The planning group must be representative of persons committed to the concept of whole school reform, and be familiar with the role of the schoolwide option in achieving it.

Six-Step Planning Process

🐞 Establishing a planning team, cont.

- The actual number of members on the full schoolwide planning team will vary, but a group of 12 or fewer is recommended.

- This core planning team is responsible for creating a program that meets local, State and Federal requirements and community expectations.

- The team should be sufficiently diverse to represent the demographics of the school and community.

Six-Step Planning Process

🔆 Establishing a planning team, cont.

- – Membership of the planning team should include a group process facilitator; data and assessment specialist; technology specialist; curriculum specialist; external technical assistance providers and other teachers, paraprofessionals, central office representatives, parents and the community.

- – Goal - Tackle hard issues and outline the year-long planning process. Reach an agreement on a draft plan of action and set timelines.

Six-Step Planning Process

🌼 Step 2. Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment

– Clarify the vision for schoolwide reform

– Create a school profile to include these focus areas:

- student achievement

- curriculum and instruction

- professional development

- family and community involvement

- school context and organization

Six-Step Planning Process

Step 2. Conducting a comprehensive needs assessment, cont.

– **Determine data collection methods and plans**
  - what additional data is needed?
– **Collect data and summarize evidence**
  - develop instruments, know the purpose, assure confidentiality, keep it manageable.
– **Analyze program needs and setting goals**
  - have open-ended discussions about issues, summarize findings, set priorities, identify solutions and goals.

Six-Step Planning Process

Step 3. Clarifying needs and finding scientifically-based strategies

- Sort out priorities, problems and solutions, for example:

  Assessment methods conflict or are a poor match with instructional practices.

- Select or develop assessment tools that match the curriculum

- Develop and implement a student portfolio system

- Assign cross-grade level teams to define common rubrics and standards

- Improve the consistency of letter grade reporting across grades and teachers.

Six-Step Planning Process

🐝 Step 3. Clarifying needs and finding scientifically-based strategies, cont.

- Closely scrutinize print media/resources to determine their match with identified school needs.

- Insist on seeing solid, scientifically-based evidence of an innovative program's success before adopting it.

- Be a wise consumer - ask publishers and commercial program developers for the names of schools with similar populations where their programs have been implemented.

Six-Step Planning Process

- Step 4. Setting Schoolwide Program Goals

  – Understand the NCLB schoolwide program requirements (10 components)
  – Connect goals and implementation plans
    - Are goals clear and measurable?
    - How will the goals be achieved for all students?
    - What are the achievement benchmarks?
    - What professional development will be implemented to achieve the indicated goals?

Six-Step Planning Process

☀ Step 4. Setting Schoolwide Program Goals, cont.

- What technical assistance providers will be consulted to offer support?

- What additional resources – human and material – will be needed to meet goals (e.g., teaching specialists, textbooks, tools, technology, software), and what funding is available?

- What are the timelines for implementing activities to meet goals?

- What role(s) will parents and the community play in achieving goals?

Six-Step Planning Process

- Step 5. Writing the Schoolwide Plan
  - What's been completed?
    - Needs assessment conducted
    - Results have been analyzed with needs prioritized
    - Strategies have been researched and program goals have been set….

    Now…….

    Use the core planning team to pull all the parts together in a coherent program statement.

Six-Step Planning Process

🐝 Step 5. Writing the Schoolwide Plan, cont.

– The schoolwide program plan should reflect relevant initiatives from all other plans that address <u>individual</u> programs within the school, but the <u>single</u> schoolwide plan should bring focus and coherence to all previously <u>separate</u> aspects of the school.

Six-Step Planning Process

⚒ Step 5. Writing the Schoolwide Plan, cont.

– Using the 10 components as a framework, and describe how each of these sub-elements support implementation:

- The combination of Federal program funds (*how used to ensure instruction by highly qualified teachers)*

- Ensuring a solid scientifically based approach for solutions (*to identify reform strategies and provide high quality professional development*)

- The use of data-based evaluation, accountability, and continuous improvement (*to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment*)

- Ongoing program development and coordination (*to assist in the transition of preschool children to elementary programs*).

Six-Step Planning Process

- Step 6. Finalizing the Schoolwide Plan
  – Submit the final draft to as many stakeholders as possible (internal and external to the school)
  – Offer opportunities for discussion and solicit feedback
  – Strive for collaboration and commitment
  – Implement the plan
  – Review and revise the plan as needed

Sample Schoolwide Plan

Goal

To increase the
number of students
in the proficient
range on the State
assessment.
range on the State
assessment

Stakeholders

students
teachers
principal
parents

Implementation of Components

- Describe how the school will
increase the number of qualified
teachers and the strategies
used to attract them.

- What substantial changes will
be made to increase parental
involvement?

- Describe the academic
intervention process used to
help students maintain
performance.

Bottom Line….

- Develop a plan, that is subject to continuous review and revision…..

- Using the components as a framework to….

- Create an environment where…

- Students most at risk of not meeting the State's standards can be successful.

Resources

- U.S. Department of Education: http://www.ed.gov

- ED Pubs:
http://www.ed.gov/about/ordering.jsp
1-877-4-ED-PUBS

Resources

- An Idea Book on Planning: Implementing Schoolwide Programs - Volume I, and

  Profiles of Successful Programs: Implementing Schoolwide Programs - Volume II

  http://www.ed.gov/pubs/Idea_Planning/

- Hope for Urban Education: A Study of Nine High-Performing, High-Poverty Urban Elementary Schools, 1999.

- http://www.ed.gov/pubs/urbanhope/index.html

Resources

- Comprehensive Regional Technical Assistance Center

  http://www.ed.gov/EdRes/EdFed/EdTechCtrs.html

Resources

http://www.titlei.org/

National Association of State Title I Directors

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Thank you for your time and attention.